LOCAL INSIGHTS FROM IEEE 802 MEMBER, MARC EMMELMAN

IEEE 802 Member and Berlin resident Mr. Marc Emmelmann has kindly recommended a number of options for Food, Drink and Entertainment in Berlin.

Public Transportation

1. VBB-Liniennetz-annotated.pdf is the public transportation map where the hotel and east / west berlin city center area is highlighted.
2. VBB-Liniennetz.pdf plain public transportation map without marks.


Note: “Sonnenallee” Station (Estrel Hotel) is at the “Circle line”.

Which Direction? Tips for boarding the correct train for the circle line: check the map if you want to go “clock-wise” or “counter-clock-wise”. There is a sign on the train (circle with little arrow) that tells you if the train you are about to board goes clock-wise or counter-clock wise.

Ticket Prices: You need a “Single Fare AB” Ticket (you do not need the C-zone unless you are really going outside the city center; zones are marked on the map).

Single Fare / single ride price is 2.70 EUR (unlimited number of transfers permitted but not a “round trip”. Ticket valid for 2hours max).

If you bring you spouse for the week or want to do sightseeing on the weekend, there are other options:

- Day ticket (“Tageskarte” valid till approx. 3h AM of next day) --- 6.90 EUR
- 7-day ticket (“7-Tage-Karte VBB-Umweltkarte AB”) 29.50 EUR

There are also “touristic tickets”. They are likely bundled with some coupons; check for details upon purchase. Also, these touristic tickets are only available at special sales points, e.g. the ticket booth at Berlin Tegel Airport.

There are two types (City Tour Card vs. Welcome Card). Please ask regarding the details / differences at the ticket booth.

- 2-day (48 hour) ticket --- 17.40 EUR or 19.50 EUR
- 3-day (72 hour) ticket --- 24.40 EUR or 26.70 EUR
- 5-day ticket – 31.90 EUR or 34.50 EUR

Note: the X-day tickets are not sold on buses. You have to go to a ticket machine (e.g. at Sonnenallee Station) to get them. There is also a ticket booth at Berlin Tegel Airport (TXL).

Taking the public transportation is safe, even in the late evening. Just be as aware of your surroundings as you would be in any other city, i.e. do not “show off” expensive jewelry / camera gear and be aware of pickpockets in crowded trains and especially in the city center (around Alexander Platz).
Restaurants

Unless you go to expensive restaurants, never be 100%-sure that they accept credit cards (especially AMEX is not always accepted; Master/VISA are usually a good guess).

There are lots of restaurants near “Savigniplatz” (see annotated map; West-Berlin City Center). Same for “Hackischer Markt” (East-Berlin City Center). The area around Hackischer Markt is a mixture between local and touristic restaurants. Savigniplatz is more local (mainly residential area a few blocks away from the center).

Some suggestions for restaurants:

**Italian**

**12 Apostel**
- one is near Savigniplatz; the other is near Hackischer Markt
- Attn.: CASH ONLY – no credit cards
- Awesome brunch on Sunday — you have to make a reservation

**Indian**

**Amrit**

**German**

**Dicke Wirtin**
- [http://www.dicke-wirtin.de](http://www.dicke-wirtin.de)
- VISA / Master card ok --- AMEX not accepted
- Make a reservation; rather small restaurant

**Brauhaus Rixdorf**
- Close to Estrel hotel

**Villa Rixdorf**
- [http://www.villa-rixdorf.com](http://www.villa-rixdorf.com)
- Close to Estrel hotel

**Chinese**

**Good Friends**
- [http://www.goodfriends-berlin.de](http://www.goodfriends-berlin.de)
- For a larger group, make reservations

**Kosher**

The following link provides a list of kosher restaurants.
- [http://www.berlin-judentum.de/koscher/koscher.htm](http://www.berlin-judentum.de/koscher/koscher.htm)

**Drinks**

- Area around Hackischer Markt is good for a late evening drink.
Sightseeing Suggestions

Hop On Hop Off Bus

For true, hard-core sightseeing, I recommend taking one of the hop-on-hop-off bus tours. Just take the pure bus tour. Some companies offer a combination ticket that includes the ships in the city center. But March is really not a good month to spend on the water 😊

Lunch @ KaDeWe

Go to the KaDeWe (Berlin Version of Macy's) and go to the food court on the 6th floor.

Do not expect a typical food court. It is more 6* fast food. Reasonable price, very good quality and worth the look. Even walking through the regular food store section is fun

http://www.kadewe.de/en/the_kadewe/directions_parking/

Gedaechtniskirche

The KaDeWe is close to the Gedaechtniskirche
http://www.gedaechtniskirche-berlin.de/KWG/index.php

Europe Center http://www.europa-center-berlin.de/en.html
- Go inside, if possible just before the "full" hour.
- There is a clock inside that displays time using water. At every full hour, you'll see the water running through the hour glasses

Shopping

In case your family needs a gift.

- Either at the KuDam (West-Berlin City Center)
- Shopping Street "Wilmersdorfer Strasse''.
- In East-Berlin City Center, the area around Friedrichstrasse is also worth going to.

ZOO

- http://www.zoo-berlin.de/zoo.html
- http://goo.gl/maps/BZs9Y

Museum Story

- Within an not-so-old atomic shelter http://www.story-of-berlin.de
- English tour every "even" hour. You will need at least (!) 2-3 hours

Schokolade Factory http://www.fassbender-rausch.de

- Local Schokolade Factory (sales and restaurant here)
- one of the best places for schokolade.
- chocolate truffel bar (the longest in Germany or even Europe)
- good place to get a hot chocolate or just a desert
- You can take the underground to go there. Ask at the hotel.

Skyscraper with viewing platform:

- Be aware of March weather, we may have strong winds, but the view is awesome :-)
- walking distance to Brandenburg Gate, the Jewish Holocaust Memorial and Potsdamer Platz.